

WE CLAIM

1. An inkjet printer for high-volume pagewidth printing comprises
a support structure;
a platen assembly positioned in the support structure, the platen assembly defining a
pagewidth printing zone;
a print assembly positioned operatively with respect to the platen assembly, the
print assembly comprising
a chassis that is mounted on the support structure to span the printing zone;
10 a plurality of printhead modules positioned on the chassis, each printhead
module having a carrier, a printhead chip mounted on the carrier and a flexible
printed circuit board connected to the chip to provide the chip with control signals,
the printhead modules being positioned so that the printhead chips overlie the
printing zone; and
a plurality of printed circuit boards mounted on the chassis, each printed
circuit board having control circuitry that is connected to a predetermined number
of printhead chips; and
a feed mechanism for feeding print media through the printing zone, over the platen
assembly.
- 20 2. An inkjet printer as claimed in claim 1, in which the support structure includes a
pair of spaced feet and a leg extending from each foot, the print assembly being mounted
on the legs to span the legs.
3. An inkjet printer as claimed in claim 1, which includes an ink distribution
arrangement mounted on the chassis to supply the printhead chips with ink, and an ink
reservoir assembly also mounted on the chassis and in fluid communication with the ink
distribution arrangement to supply the ink distribution arrangement with ink.
- 30 4. An inkjet printer as claimed in claim 3, in which the ink reservoir assembly includes
an ink reservoir structure that defines a plurality of elongate channels that extend across the
printing zone, differently colored inks being received in respective channels, each channel
being connectable to a respective ink cartridge with a suitable ink conduit.

5. An inkjet printer as claimed in claim 1, in which each printhead module is detachably mounted on the chassis to facilitate replacement of the printhead module.
6. An inkjet printer as claimed in claim 2, in which the feed mechanism includes a media roll that spans the legs and a take up spool that also spans the legs, the roll and the spool being rotatable to feed media from the media roll, through the printing zone and onto the take-up spool.
- 10 7. An inkjet printer as claimed in claim 1, which includes a plurality of capping devices, associated with respective printhead modules, each capping device being mounted on the chassis and being displaceable between an operative position in which the capping device serves to cap the printhead chip of its associated module and an inoperative position in which the capping device is displaced from the printhead chip.